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WITHIN LAKESIDE

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"Give once, but enough for all," Cleveland's slogan for her community chest which is to give aid to seventy-seven relief organizations, was even more apropos to the nursing force of Lakeside Hospital, whose members, besides wishing to support this campaign, desired also to contribute to the memorial to be erected in France for the nurses who died in service, and to send a delegate to the International Student Volunteer Conference at Des Moines in January.

A campaign for raising these funds was never organized. The splendid idea of individual effort for every contribution was originated by our principal who, instead of announcing it to the students, very subtly suggested it by placing rather puzzling posters in the Nurses' Home stating a time and an attraction of interest to all departments,—the proceeds of which would be one contribution towards our desired funds. This initial step was supported by a few other anonymous posters which also came, as we deciphered with much difficulty, from the "front office" proclaiming other daring ideas to gain funds. At the very first appearance of the posters the students caught the spirit. From that instant, friendly and spirited rivalry to make each individual effort more unique and financially successful than all preceding ones was the game of the hour. Keen, aggressive minds and quick action kept this initial enthusiasm at a high pitch throughout the week.

The psychology of the nurse's mind had been studied subconsciously during the previous months if the deft way of appealing successfully to her ardent desires is any criterion. Many of her fondest dreams were within her grasp. At no time, day or night, need she be without the slightest comfort, for even before she made her desires known, some nurse was only too willing, if not already waiting to fulfill her fancies.

Was she ever hungry? Every night she could satisfy her hunger. Venders in costume were to be seen strolling everywhere through the corridors of our home, attracting the occupants with their popular wares of pop-corn balls, peanuts, candy, sandwiches and cocoa, "hot dogs," and ice cream cones. Each was sold for a mere pittance. "Eats" became so popular that Aunt Jemima and her close relatives from the Sunny South appeared in our midst to give us our fill of waffles and syrup. The food luxury culminated on Sunday morning when a few self-sacrificing nurses gave up their morning nap to

prepare and serve at the very bedside of those fortunate enough to have the "morning off," an honest-to-goodness breakfast that made us think strongly of our good old homes and mothers.

Was a student longing, perchance, for the finishing touches of the beauty parlor, the shampoo, the A No. 1 manicure, the massage? Her patronage was sought out and open appointment hours were quickly suggested to her. Emphasis was placed on the excellent service, low rates, and the proximity of the parlors to the customer. Think of patronizing beauty parlors run by supervisors and head nurses! A wild dream? No,—reality for one whole week.

Could it be amusement and entertainment that she desired? Not once did she feel the need of spending her evenings at concerts, theatres, or movies. Elaborate Thé Dansants, penny socials at which you could see, eat, hear, and dance as long as the coppers lasted, "Lakeside Follies" in which dash and beauty gratified an eager audience, and a Community Sing from which re-echoed good fellowship, were hers.

Was she looking for the latest current literature? Sold at her very door was the *Lakeside Hemophilia*, a local of four sheets edited by a staff composed of members from each class of the school. She could meditate on the Principal's message, the editorials, class notes, new student government outlines, or ponder over a tempting article on The Impending Shortage of Fish, contributed by one of our house doctors, or many bits of prose or poetry of note.

Were there a dozen and one things to be done, with no ambition to do them?—fine linens to be laundered, rooms to be dusted, beds to be made, uniforms to be repaired, stockings to be darned? Some one was waiting for every job! A shoe shining parlor was opened every evening at just the right spot in the home to force every one to pass it several times. Two thrifty coons enlarged their business by staring at the feet of the passers-by and shouting, "Say, ladies! Look at dem shoes. Yo' need a shine—bad! Two feet fo' five cents. Step right up." Customers were much pleased with the excellent service and with the Shakespearean quotations which were recited as the shine appeared on many a shabby old shoe.

Growing rather blasé to the many luxuries heaped about her, the nurse was still aware of many beautiful articles,—silk hosiery, a hand crocheted yoke straight from France, and even a Rembrandt etching, which were offered to one of many. One or all of these were hers if luck favored her. Would she take a chance? Yes, when for from five to fifty cents she might have them in her possession.

Could she desire more? She could dream of but one more comfort,—that of arising each bitter cold morning in a comfortably

heated room. With one enterprising nurse caring less for her morning nap than most of the others, closing windows, turning on radiators and lights, for a single cent a day, we at last have in reality, a nurse in training, and indulging at the same time in all the accessories of the rich.

The week's experience netted the school vastly more than six hundred and fifty dollars. It proved to both supervisors and students that the quality of the hospital work could be kept at its high standard during one of the busiest weeks of the year, and that the usual rigid ward discipline could be maintained while in the home there was absolute abandon in the freedom which was given each individual to work out her ingenious scheme to magnetize the small coins of her fellow students. The enthusiasm, "pep," and united effort exhibited resembled many of our college campaigns, but over and above these, this campaign in the hospital has the added advantage of assuming a more concentrated nature, greater opportunities to execute impromptu plans successfully and to work in more intimate relations with fellow students. The campaign has unearthed much individuality among the nurses and has created a keen group spirit displayed by splendid coöperation, good will and fellowship which necessarily will be the basis for greater opportunities for the home life of the nurses in training.

A campaign such as has just been completed is indeed unique in the history of training schools for nurses but it gives a forward suggestion which should be beneficial in both the ward work and the home life. The individuality of the student, which sometimes has been suppressed or crushed by routine in hospitals, in the past, was given a test in this campaign and evolved astonishing results. It clearly showed that individuality, when rightly directed, is a great asset, not a hindrance, to an institution and brings greater interest and harmony in the entire group besides allowing a much more normal development of the individual. May it be the fortune of many other training schools to experience the thrill of greater possibilities in coöperation and hearty fellowship which have so firmly gripped all the members within Lakeside.